

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): Device for curing a coating of an object, ~~in particular a vehicle body (12)~~, the coating consisting of a material that cures under electromagnetic radiation, the device including in particular of a UV lacquer or a thermally curable lacquer, comprising
 - a) at least one emitter $[(48; 48')]$ generating electromagnetic radiation; and,
 - b) a conveying system $[(14, 16)]$ which conveys the object $[(12)]$ into the vicinity of the emitter $[(48; 48')]$ and away from it again;

wherein characterised in that

the conveying system comprising ~~comprises~~ a suspended carriage $[(16)]$ which can be moved in a translatory manner along at least one travel way $[(14)]$ and is suspended over the at least one emitter $[(48; 48')]$, and in that at least two downwardly extending suspension supports $[(66)]$ for suspension of the object $[(12)]$ are arranged one behind the other in the longitudinal direction $[(85)]$ on a bogie truck $[(50)]$ of the suspended carriage $[(16)]$, the length of which supports can be changed independently of each other with the aid of a motor.
2. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein characterised in that at least one of the suspension supports $[(66)]$ comprises two belts $[(70)]$ or chains which can be individually wound with the aid of a motor and which act on either side of the object $[(12)]$ at a supporting structure $[(74)]$ receiving the object $[(12)]$.
3. (currently amended): Device according to ~~either~~ claim 1, wherein or 2, characterised in that the conveying system comprises a plurality of suspended carriages $[(16)]$ which each comprise a separate driving unit $[(58)]$ for a translatory movement along the travel way $[(14)]$.
4. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, further comprising ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises~~ a container $[(38)]$ that is open at the top and arranged below the travel way $[(14)]$, and into the interior of which the object $[(12)]$ can be

introduced by an extension of the length of the suspension support [[(66)]] and of which the interior can be subjected to electromagnetic radiation from the at least one emitter [[(48; 48')]].

5. (currently amended): Device according to claim 4, wherein characterised in that at least one emitter [[(48)]] is fitted in a wall or the base [[(44)]] of the container [[(38)]].

6. (currently amended): Device according to claim 5, wherein characterised in that at least one emitter [[(48)]] is fitted in the opposing side walls [[(39)]] extending parallel to the translational movement of the objects [[(12)]] and in at least one of the two end walls [[(41)]] extending perpendicular to the translational movement of the objects or in the base [[(44)]] of the container [[(38)]].

7. (currently amended): Device according to claim 5, wherein characterised in that a large number of emitters [[(48)]] is arranged on all walls [[(39; 41)]] and in the base [[(44)]] of the container [[(38)]].

8. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a plurality of emitters [[(48')]] are provided in a U-shaped arrangement with two substantially vertical legs and a substantially horizontal base.

9. (currently amended): Device according to claim 8, wherein characterised in that the arrangement of the emitters [[(48')]] at the substantially vertical legs is adapted to the course of the lateral surfaces of the object [[(12)]].

10. (currently amended): Device according to claim 8, wherein or 9, characterised in that the arrangement of emitters [[(48')]] at the substantially horizontal base is adapted to the course of the downwardly oriented surface of the object [[(12)]].

11. (currently amended): Device according to any one of claim [s] 4, wherein to 10, characterised in that a protective gas can be supplied to the interior of the container [[(38)]].

12. (currently amended): Device according to claim 11, wherein characterised in that the protective gas is heavier than air, in particular is carbon dioxide.

13. (currently amended): Device according to ~~either~~ claim 11, further comprising ~~or 12,~~
~~characterised in that~~ ~~there~~ is an inlet for the protective gas in the immediate vicinity of the at least one emitter [[({48}; {48'})]].

14. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~
~~characterised in that~~ at least one emitter [[({48}; {48'})]] on the side remote from the object [[({12})]] is associated with a moving reflector.

15. (currently amended): Device according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~[[s]]~~ 4, wherein ~~to~~ 14,
~~characterised in that~~ the container [[({38})]] is provided on at least one inner surface with a reflective layer [[({78})]].

16. (currently amended): Device according to claim 15, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the layer [[({78})]] is uneven.

17. (currently amended): Device according to ~~any either of~~ claim~~[[s]]~~ 14, wherein ~~or~~ 15,
~~characterised in that~~ the layer consists of aluminium foil [[({78})]].

18. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, further comprising ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~
~~characterised in that~~ it ~~comprises~~ a cabin housing [[({28})]] which prevents the uncontrolled escape of gases and electromagnetic radiation.

19. (currently amended): Device according to claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a respective sluice [[({34, 36})]] is provided for the suspended carriage [[({16})]] at the inlet and outlet of the cabin housing [[({28})]].

20. (currently amended): Device according to ~~either~~ claim 18, wherein ~~or~~ 19, ~~characterised in that~~ an apparatus [[({42})]] is provided for removing oxygen from the atmosphere within the cabin housing [[({28})]].

21. (currently amended): Device according to claim 20, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the apparatus [[({42})]] for removing oxygen comprises a catalyst for catalytically binding the oxygen.

22. (currently amended): Device according to ~~either~~ claim 20, wherein ~~or~~ 21, ~~characterised in that~~, for removing oxygen, the apparatus [[({42})]] comprises a filter for absorbing oxygen.

23. (currently amended): Device according to ~~any one of claim[s] 20, wherein to 22, characterised in that~~, for removing oxygen, the apparatus ~~[(42)]~~ comprises a filter for adsorbing oxygen.

24. (currently amended): Device according to ~~claim 1, further comprising any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises~~ a pre-heating zone ~~[(18)]~~ for removing the solvent from the material of the coating.

25. (currently amended): Device according to ~~claim 1, further comprising any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises~~ a pre-heating zone ~~[(18)]~~ for initial gelling of powdery material.

26. (currently amended): Device according to ~~claim 1, wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ the device comprises a controller ~~[(90)]~~ via which the length of the suspension supports ~~[(66)]~~ can be automatically adapted to the vertical dimensions of the object ~~[(12)]~~.

27. (currently amended): Device according to claim 26, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the length of the suspension supports ~~[(66)]~~ can be changed by the controller ~~[(90)]~~ in such a way that, during a conveying movement of the object ~~[(12)]~~ past the at least one emitter ~~[(48; 48')]~~, the quantity of electromagnetic radiation striking the material per unit of area and the intensity thereof do not fall below respectively predetermined thresholds required for curing.

28. (currently amended): Device according to claim 27, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the length of the suspension supports ~~[(66)]~~ can be changed by the controller ~~[(90)]~~ in such a way that, during a conveying movement of the object ~~[(12)]~~ past the at least one emitter ~~[(48; 48')]~~, the spacing in the vertical direction between the object ~~[(12)]~~ and the at least one emitter ~~[(48; 48')]~~ is at least approximately constant.

29. (currently amended): Device according to ~~either~~ claim 27, ~~wherein or~~ 28, ~~characterised in that~~ the controller ~~[(90)]~~ comprises a memory ~~[(92)]~~ for storing three-dimensional shape data of the object ~~[(12)]~~.

30. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the device comprises a measuring station [[(94)]] upstream of the at least one emitter [[(48; 48²)]] in the conveying direction, by means of which station the three-dimensional shape data of the object [[(12)]] can be detected.

31. (currently amended): Device according to claim 30, wherein characterised in that the measuring station [[(94)]] comprises at least one light barrier.

32. (currently amended): Device according to claim 31, wherein characterised in that the measuring station comprises at least one optical sampler [[(96)]] by which the object [[(12)]] can be sampled in a scanner-like manner in at least one direction.

33. (currently amended): Device according to claim 32, wherein characterised in that the optical sampler [[(96)]] comprises an infrared light source.

34. (currently amended): Device according to any one of claim[s] 30, wherein to 33, characterised in that the measuring station comprises a video camera and an apparatus for digital image recognition.

35. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, further comprising any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises a post-heating zone [[(22)]] to complete curing.

36. (currently amended): Device according to claim[[s]] 11, wherein and 19, characterised in that, within the inlet-side sluice [[(34)]], an inlet for protective gas is arranged in such a way that a cavity in the object [[(12)]] is flushed with a protective gas.

37. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the electromagnetic radiation is UV light.

38. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the electromagnetic radiation is IR radiation.